Division of Commercial Fisheries Sam Rabung, Director

Sitka Area Office 304 Lake Street, Room 103 Sitka, AK 99835



Alaska Department of Fish and Game Doug Vincent-Lang, Commissioner

> PO Box 115526 Juneau, AK 99811-5526 www.adfg.alaska.gov

Advisory Announcement For Immediate Release: September 1, 2020 CONTACT: Aaron Dupuis Sitka Area Management Biologist Aaron.dupuis@alaska.gov (907) 747-6688

SECTION 13-B SALMON PURSE SEINE FISHERY ANNOUNCEMENT

The following areas will be open to purse seining from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., Sunday, Thursday, and Friday of each week from September 3 through September 25, 2020:

West Crawfish Inlet: will be open north and east of a line from $56^{\circ}49.10'$ N lat, $135^{\circ}10.00'$ W long to $56^{\circ}49.54'$ N lat, $135^{\circ}10.53'$ W long, and north of a line from $56^{\circ}49.20'$ N lat, $135^{\circ}11.38'$ W long to $56^{\circ}49.20'$ N lat, $135^{\circ}11.89'$ W long with the following restrictions:

West Crawfish Inlet (including the NW arm): will be closed north of 56°50.56' N lat;

<u>Shamrock Bay</u>: all waters will be open. No anadromous waters restrictions will be in effect for Lake Ekaterina Outlet Stream (all freshwaters and stream channels remain closed).

Crawfish Inlet SHA: will be open east of line from east of line from 56°45.34' N lat, 135°11.05' W long to 56°44.87' N lat, 135°11.05' W long with the following restrictions:

<u>Crawfish Inlet</u>: will be closed north of a line from 56°47.41' N lat, 135°06.61' W long to 56° 47.36' N lat, 135° 07.13' W long;

<u>Crawfish Inlet salmon streams</u>: no restrictions will be in effect for Crawfish Inlet salmon streams (all freshwaters and stream channels remain closed).

<u>Crawfish Inlet SHA</u>: NSRAA has forecasted a run of 1,579,000 chum salmon to the Crawfish Inlet THA. NSRAA has achieved their cost recovery goal with a harvest of 521,000 chum salmon. Approximately 63,100 chum salmon have been harvested in the common property troll fishery and approximately 391,000 chum salmon have been harvested by the common property seine fishery. To continue to minimize potential straying of hatchery produced chum salmon and maintain quality the department is opening a small portion of West Crawfish Inlet to common property purse seine fishing. This area should have a minimal impact on wild stock salmon returning to West Crawfish Inlet as wild stock pink and chum salmon are typically in the stream based on normal run timing and recent aerial surveys of the area. It is important for seine vessels to correctly report harvest location during this opening: West Crawfish Inlet is statistical area 113-32 and Crawfish Inlet is statistical area 113-33.

<u>Chinook Salmon Landing Restrictions</u>: Chinook salmon 28 inches or greater in length **MAY be retained and sold**. Chinook salmon less than 28 inches may be retained but not sold.

Fishermen and processors are reminded that all salmon, including steelhead, commercially harvested but retained for personal use and not sold, must be reported on fish tickets at the time of delivery.

This will be the final announcement for chum salmon fishing opportunities in Crawfish and West Crawfish inlets.

The Emergency Order corresponding with this announcement is EO 1S5720.

Deep Inlet THA harvest to date: 2,500 Chinook and 295,000 chum salmon.

Crawfish Inlet SHA and West Crawfish Inlet harvest to date: 391,000 chum salmon.

Under Alaska's Health Mandates 10, 17, and 18, commercial fishing is an Essential Business and is part of Alaska's Essential Services and Critical Infrastructure. Commercial fishermen should ensure that all travel and other activities in support of commercial fishing operations follow protocols in Alaska COVID-19 Health Mandates. COVID-19 Health Mandates may be found here: <u>https://gov.alaska.gov/home/covid19-healthmandates/</u>.

Advisory Announcement web site: <u>http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.main</u>.

Office	Ketchikan	Petersburg	Wrangell	Sitka	Juneau	Haines	Yakutat
ADF&G	225-5195	772-3801		747-6688	465-4250	766-2830	784-3255
AWT	225-5111	772-3983	874-3215	747-3254	465-4000	766-2533	784-3220